
Introduced by Senator Torlakson

February 24, 2006

An act to add Section 101037 to the Health and Safety Code, relating to public health.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1774, as introduced, Torlakson. Public health: county health officers.

Existing law authorizes the county health officer to take various measures that may be necessary to protect and preserve the public health from any public health hazard, as specified.

This bill would authorize a county health officer to enter into, and sign a memorandum of understanding with, any other public agency that has responsibility for regulating water quality and wastewater treatment to obtain laboratory services relating to public health from that public agency.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares both of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) Existing local public health laboratories are understaffed
- 4 and in need of modernization. A lack of adequate resources has
- 5 resulted in a public health laboratory system that is ill prepared to
- 6 meet the increasing demands of today's public health concerns
- 7 such as West Nile virus, avian influenza, and threats of
- 8 bioterrorism.

1 (b) Finding and creating partnership opportunities between
2 counties and other public agencies that have laboratory facilities
3 in place will result in an expansion of the services available, and
4 is an important option for improving the ability to meet the
5 growing demands placed on local public health laboratories.

6 SEC. 2. Section 101037 is added to the Health and Safety
7 Code, to read:

8 101037. A county health officer may enter into, and sign a
9 memorandum of understanding with, any other public agency
10 that has responsibility for regulating water quality or wastewater
11 treatment to obtain laboratory services relating to public health
12 from that public agency.